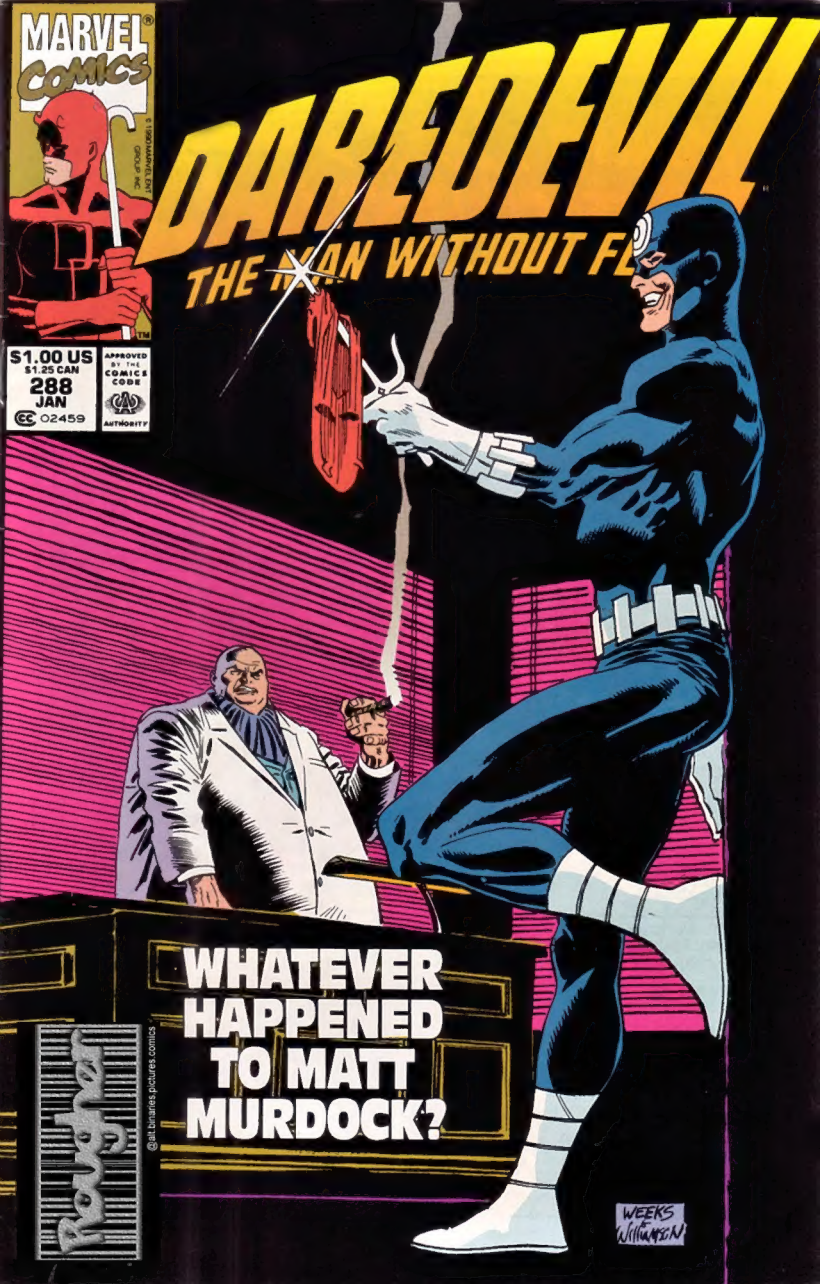
MARVEL COMICS
DAREDEVIL
THE MAN WITHOUT FE
$1.00 US
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288
JAN
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APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY
WHATEVER HAPPENED TO MATT MURDOCK?
WEEKS WILLIAMSON

A CHILDHOOD ACCIDENT STOLE HIS SIGHT, BUT, INCREDIBLY, IT ENDOWED YOUNG MATT MURDOCK WITH RADAR VISION AND HEIGHTENED SENSES. ARMED ONLY WITH HIS ATHLETIC PROWESS, BILLY CLUB, AND INDOMITABLE COURAGE, MATT BATTLES INJUSTICE AS A CRIMSON-CLAD GLADIATOR!

STAN LEE PRESENTS: **DAREDEVIL, THE MAN WITHOUT FEAR!**

THE STUDENT

IT'S BACK TO THE WAY IT WAS MEANT TO BE...

EVERY UNREQUITED MOMENT... IS IN MY ARMS.

EVERY DARK SHIP PASSED, EVERY UNANSWERED GLANCE...

IT'S ALL BACK IN HER EYES...

ALL THE PASSING POSSIBILITIES...

ELEKTRA.

MATT.

BUT HOW CAN I SEE HER EYES IF MINE ARE BLIND?

SOMETHING'S WRONG HERE.

ANN NOCENTI	LEE WEEKS	WILLIAMSON & WEEKS (pp. 25-30)	ROCKWITZ & YOMTOV	MORELLI & JOYCE	RALPH MACCHIO	TOM DEFALCO
WRITER	PENCILS	INKS	COLORS	LETTERS	EDITOR	PRINCIPAL

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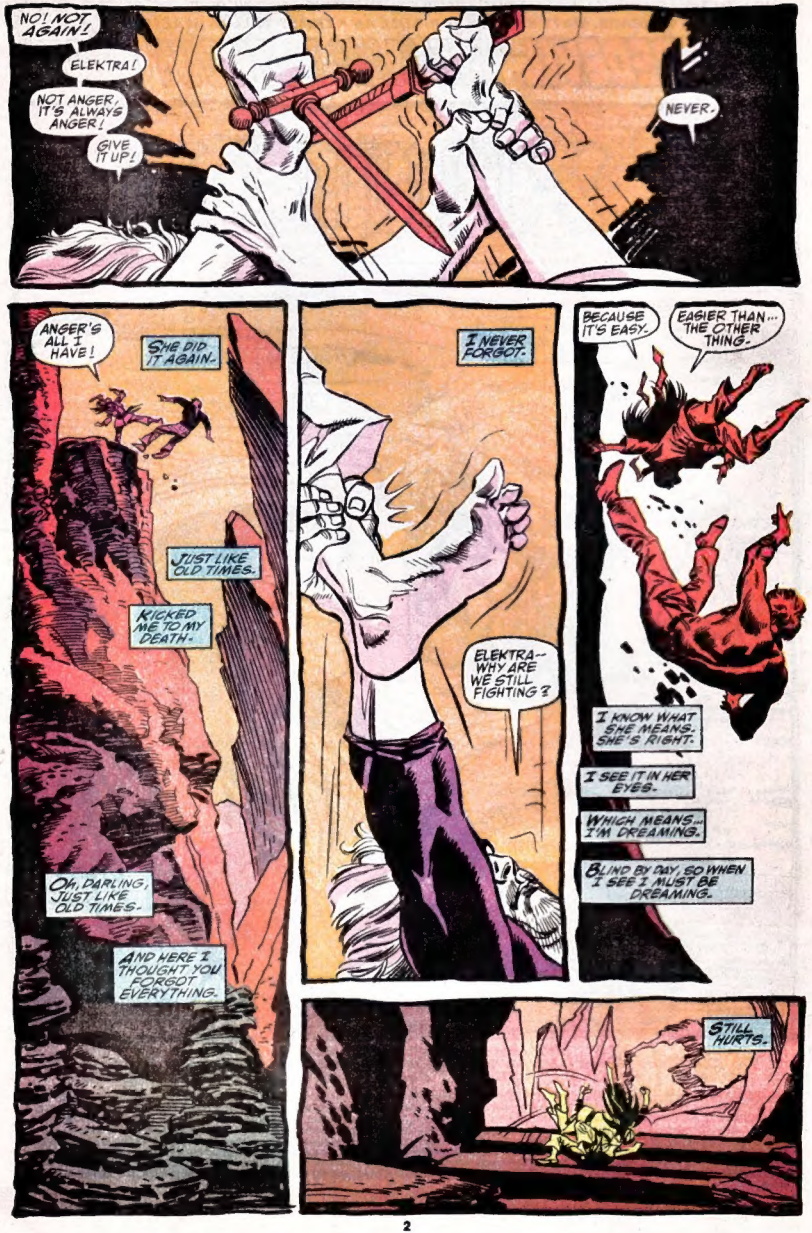
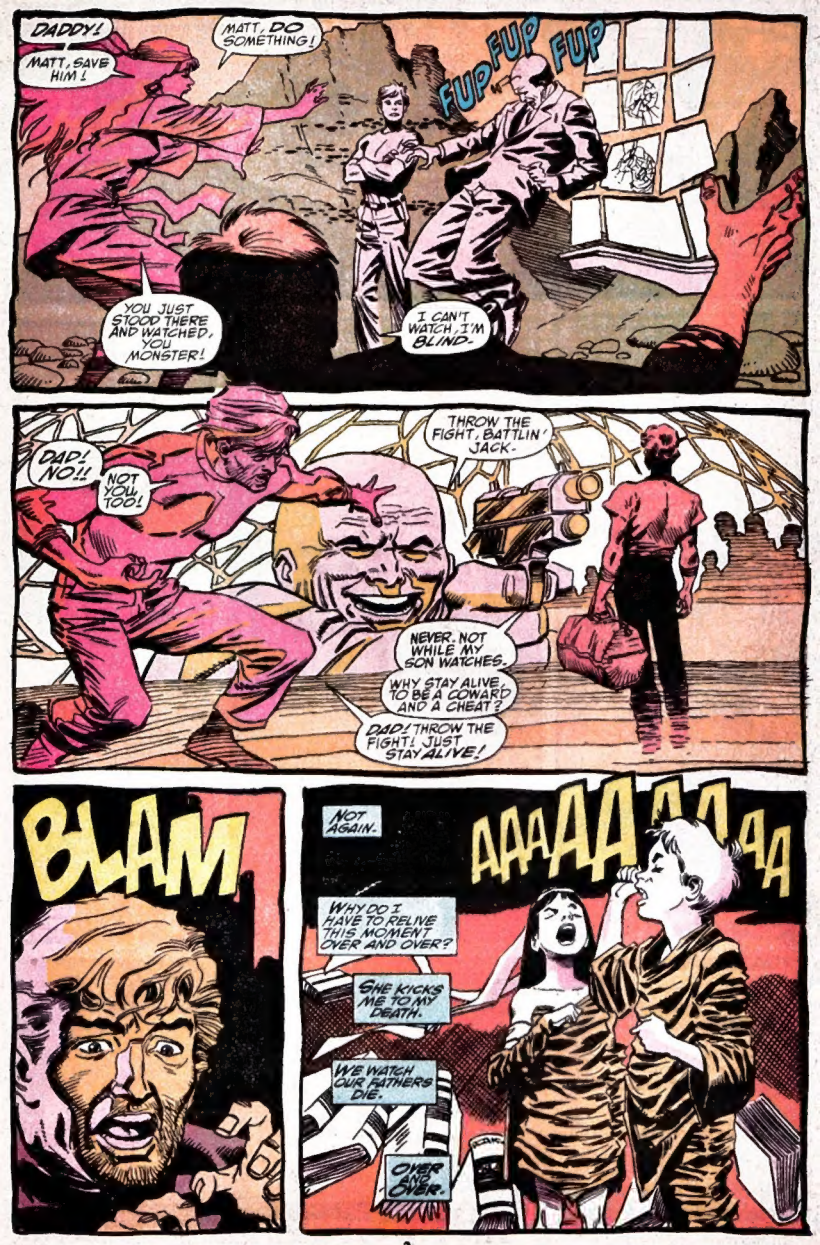
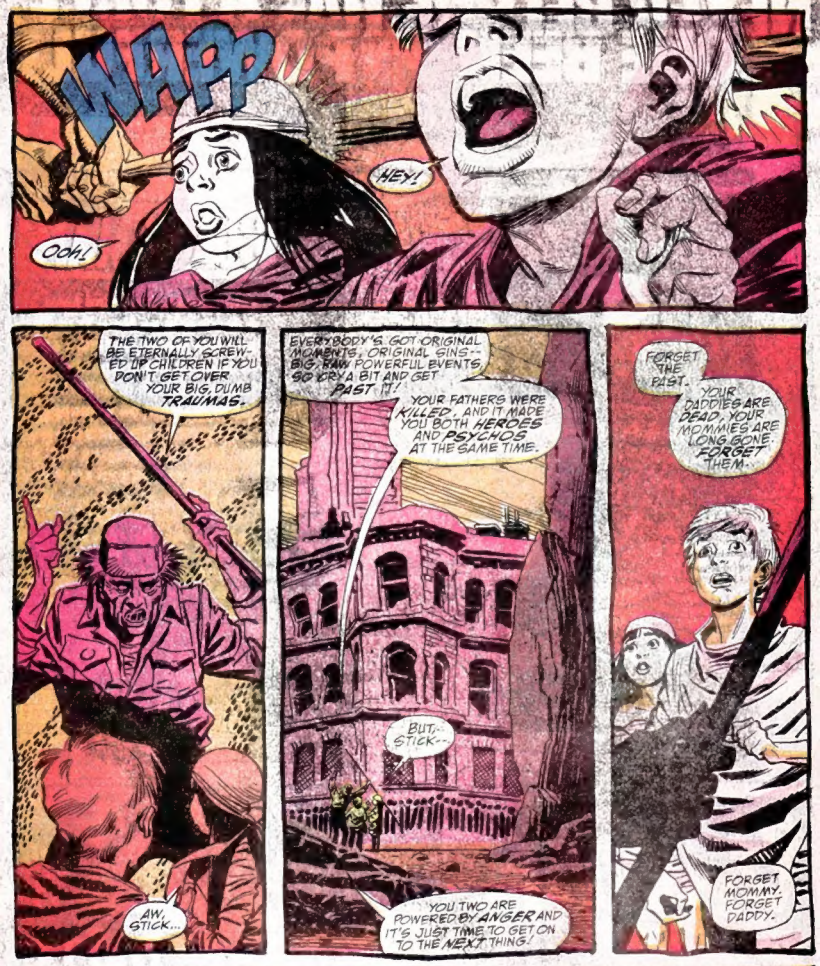
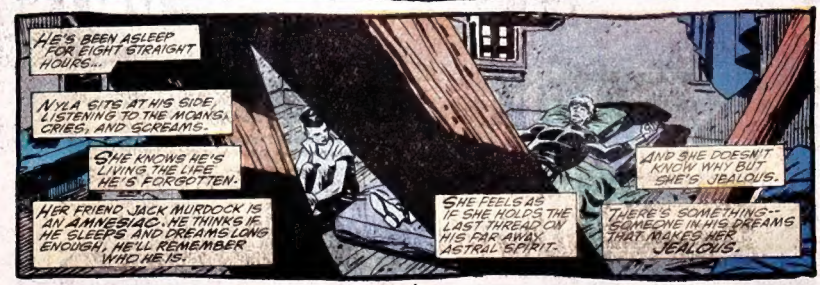

NO! NOT AGAIN!
ELEKTRA!
NOT ANGER, IT'S ALWAYS ANGER!
GIVE IT UP!
NEVER.
ANGER'S ALL I HAVE!
SHE DID IT AGAIN.
JUST LIKE OLD TIMES.
KICKED ME TO MY DEATH.
OH, DARLING, JUST LIKE OLD TIMES.
AND HERE I THOUGHT YOU FORGOT EVERYTHING.
I NEVER FORGOT.
ELEKTRA— WHY ARE WE STILL FIGHTING?
BECAUSE IT'S EASY.
EASIER THAN... THE OTHER THING.
I KNOW WHAT SHE MEANS. SHE'S RIGHT.
I SEE IT IN HER EYES.
WHICH MEANS... I'M DREAMING.
BLIND BY DAY, SO WHEN I SEE I MUST BE DREAMING.
STILL HURTS.


DADDY!
MATT, SAVE HIM!
MATT, DO SOMETHING!
FUP FUP FUP
YOU JUST STOOD THERE AND WATCHED, YOU MONSTER!
I CAN'T WATCH, I'M BLIND.
DAD! NO!!
NOT YOU, TOO!
THROW THE FIGHT, BATTLIN' JACK.
NEVER. NOT WHILE MY SON WATCHES.
WHY STAY ALIVE, TO BE A COWARD AND A CHEAT?
DAD! THROW THE FIGHT! JUST STAY ALIVE!
BLAM
NOT AGAIN.
AAAAAAAAA
WHY DO I HAVE TO RELIVE THIS MOMENT OVER AND OVER?
SHE KICKS ME TO MY DEATH.
WE WATCH OUR FATHERS DIE.
OVER AND OVER.


WAPP
HEY!
OOH!
THE TWO OF YOU WILL BE ETERNALLY SCREWED UP CHILDREN IF YOU DON'T GET OVER YOUR BIG, DUMB TRAUMAS.
AW, STICK...
EVERYBODY'S GOT ORIGINAL MOMENTS, ORIGINAL SINS-- BIG, RAW, POWERFUL EVENTS, SO GRIN A BIT AND GET PAST IT!
YOUR FATHERS WERE KILLED, AND IT MADE YOU BOTH HEROES AND PSYCHOS AT THE SAME TIME.
BUT, STICK--
YOU TWO ARE POWERED BY ANGER AND IT'S JUST TIME TO GET ON TO THE NEXT THING!
FORGET THE PAST.
YOUR DADDIES ARE DEAD, YOUR MOMMIES ARE LONG GONE. FORGET THEM.
FORGET MOMMY. FORGET DADDY.


HE'S BEEN ASLEEP FOR EIGHT STRAIGHT HOURS...
NYLA SITS AT HIS SIDE, LISTENING TO THE MOANS, CRIES, AND SCREAMS.
SHE KNOWS HE'S LIVING THE LIFE HE'S FORGOTTEN.
HER FRIEND JACK MURDOCK IS AN AMNESIAC. HE THINKS IF HE SLEEPS AND DREAMS LONG ENOUGH, HE'LL REMEMBER WHO HE IS.
SHE FEELS AS IF SHE HOLDS THE LAST THREAD ON HIS FAR AWAY, ASTRAL SPIRIT.
AND SHE DOESN'T KNOW WHY BUT SHE'S JEALOUS.
THERE'S SOMETHING-- SOMEONE IN HIS DREAMS THAT MAKES HER JEALOUS.

HIGH IN A MANHATTAN SKYSCRAPER OWNED BY THE FISK CORPORATION...

TIME TO MOVE.

MY PROTECTION SYSTEM EXTENDS THAT FAR-

I'M GETTING SO TIRED OF THE DRUG BUSINESS, WITH ITS GUNS, BLOOD, AND BETRAYALS.

WHY CAN'T DRUGS BE RUN LIKE ANY OTHER COMMODITY?

WELL, FOR NOW, I MOVE OPERATIONS TO ...LET'S SEE, WE'VE GOT A SAFE-HOUSE AT--

50TH AND 10TH.

BULLS-EYE.

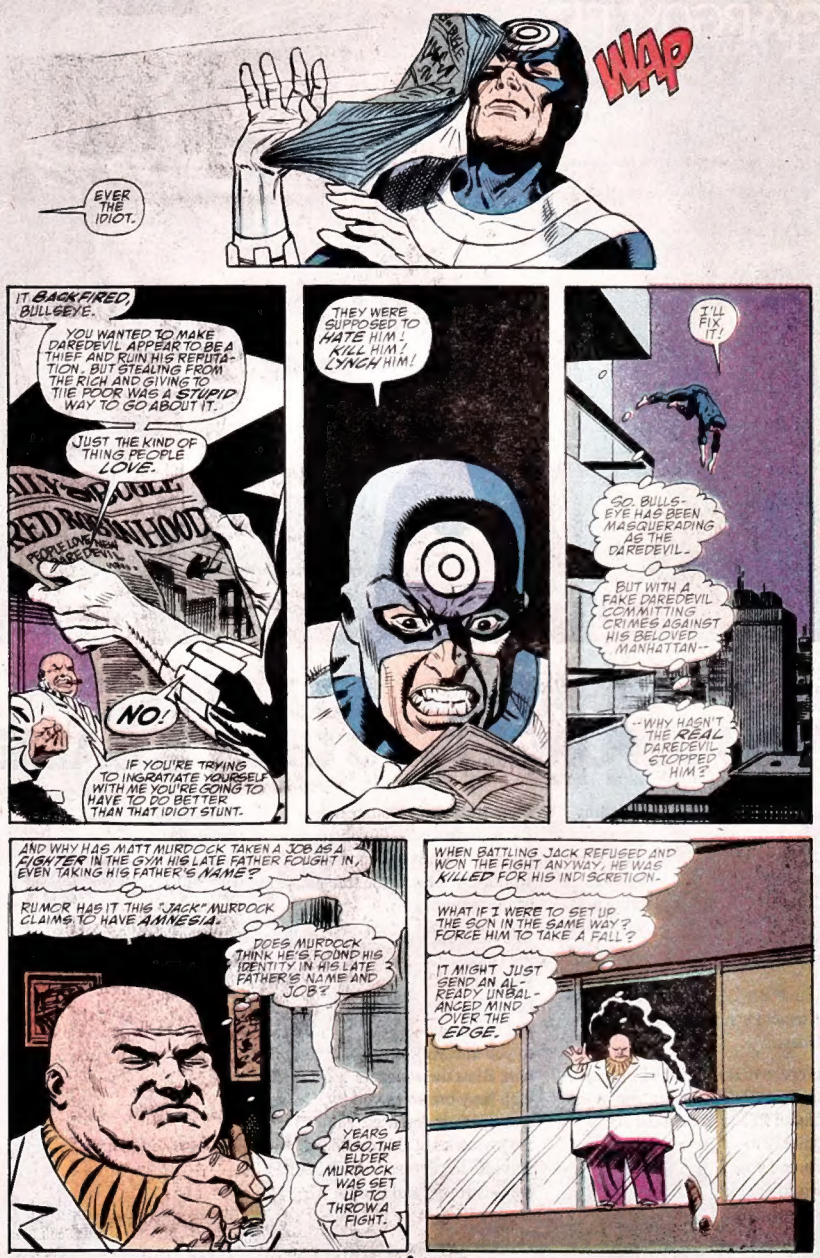
thuk

AFTER THAT BUSINESS WITH THE RED SKULL, I THOUGHT I TOLD YOU TO LIE LOW UNTIL I CONTACTED YOU.

WELL, KINGPIN, I WAS WONDERING IF YOU'D NOTICED SOME THING STRANGE HAPPENING IN THE CITY--

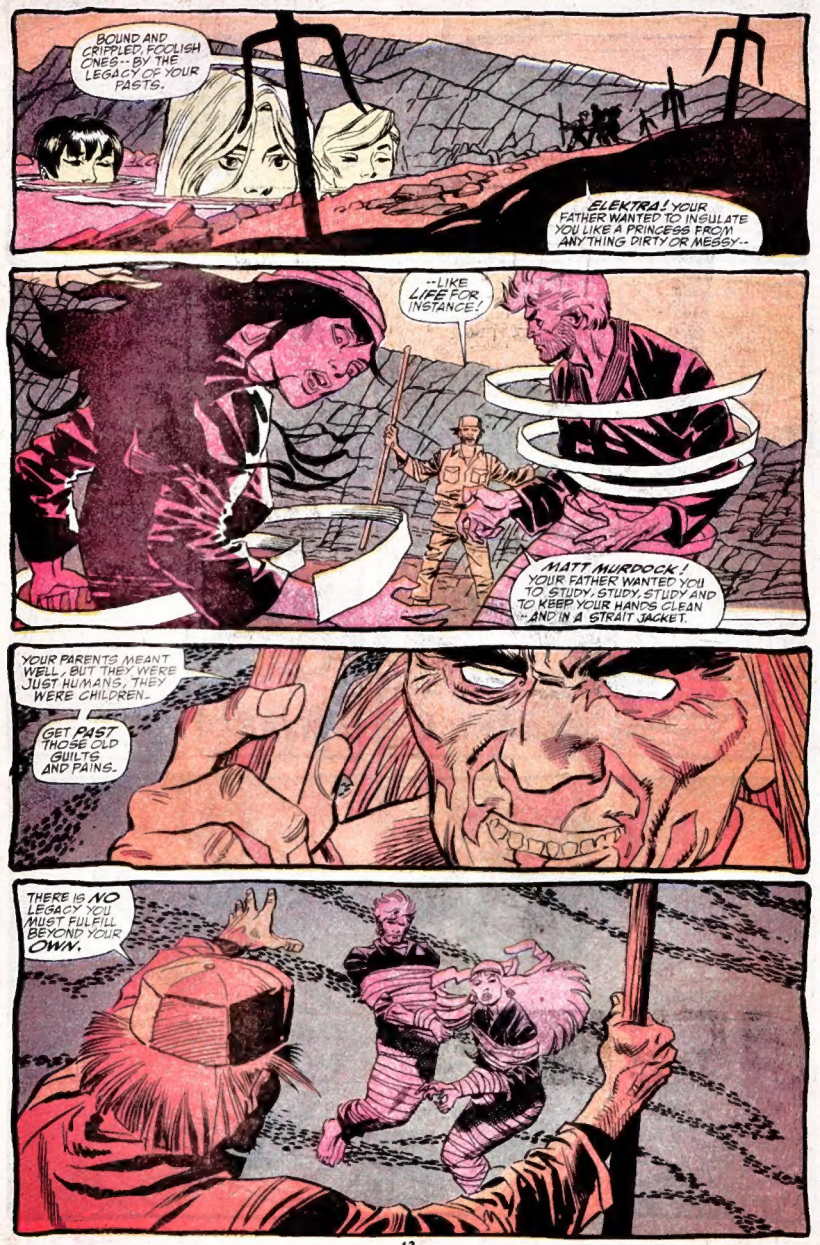
--SOMETHING WITH MY SIGNATURE ON IT?

YOU IDIOT.


WAP
EVER THE IDIOT.
IT BACKFIRED, BULLSEYE.
YOU WANTED TO MAKE DAREDEVIL APPEAR TO BE A THIEF AND RUIN HIS REPUTATION. BUT STEALING FROM THE RICH AND GIVING TO THE POOR WAS A STUPID WAY TO GO ABOUT IT.
JUST THE KIND OF THING PEOPLE LOVE.
PEOPLE LOVE THEIR DAREDEVIL
NO!
IF YOU'RE TRYING TO INGRATIATE YOURSELF WITH ME YOU'RE GOING TO HAVE TO DO BETTER THAN THAT IDIOT STUNT.
THEY WERE SUPPOSED TO HATE HIM! KILL HIM! LYNCH HIM!
I'LL FIX IT!
GO, BULLSEYE HAS BEEN MASQUERADING AS THE DAREDEVIL.
BUT WITH A FAKE DAREDEVIL COMMITTING CRIMES AGAINST HIS BELOVED MANHATTAN--
--WHY HASN'T THE REAL DAREDEVIL STOPPED HIM?
AND WHY HAS MATT MURDOCK TAKEN A JOB AS A FIGHTER IN THE GYM HIS LATE FATHER FOUGHT IN, EVEN TAKING HIS FATHER'S NAME?
RUMOR HAS IT THIS "JACK" MURDOCK CLAIMS TO HAVE AMNESIA.
DOES MURDOCK THINK HE'S FOUND HIS IDENTITY IN HIS LATE FATHER'S NAME AND JOB?
YEARS AGO, THE ELDER MURDOCK WAS SET UP TO THROW A FIGHT.
WHEN BATTLING JACK REFUSED AND WON THE FIGHT ANYWAY, HE WAS KILLED FOR HIS INDISCRETION.
WHAT IF I WERE TO SET UP THE SON IN THE SAME WAY? FORCE HIM TO TAKE A FALL?
IT MIGHT JUST SEND AN ALREADY UNBALANCED MIND OVER THE EDGE.

HELL'S KITCHEN...
EIGHT DOLLARS.
I COULD SEE A MOVIE... OR HAVE A SANDWICH AN' A BEER. NOT BOTH.
FOOD OR A MOVIE. WHICH IS MORE FILLING?
Hmph.
OR...
I COULD SKIP FOOD AND HAVE FIVE BEERS. HUMMM.
WHOZZAT?
AH. THANK GOD IT'S YOU. I THOUGHT I WAS GONNA GET MUGGED!
HEY, YOU SCARED ME. UH, WHY YOU LOOKIN' LIKE THAT?
HEY, MAN! YOU'RE SCARIN' ME!
WHY?
YOU'VE NEVER ACTUALLY MET THE DARE-DEVIL BEFORE.
DOESN'T IT MAKE SENSE, THAT THE CRUSADER IN THE RED PLASTIC SUIT WOULD BE A NUT?
I'M GONNA HAVE ME FIVE BEERS, THANKS, PAL.

HOPE HE LIKES GARLIC...
'CAUSE I DO.
WONDER IF HE'LL MIND WATCHING T.V.?
I'D HATE TO MISS TWIN PEAKS--HE
YOUCH!
PLUNK!
YOU!
WHO DID THAT... DID YOU... DID YOU HIT ME... WHY?
HEY!
BUT WHY?
POIK
DON'T FORGET TO REPORT THIS CRIME TO YOUR LOCAL POLICE, MA'AM.
BYE NOW.
YOU WANT TO GO HOME OR SIT IN THE PARK A BIT?
OKAY, LET'S FIND A NICE BENCH AND--HEY, DID YOU HEAR THAT--
DON'T LOOK SO SHOCKED, CITIZEN.
DIDN'T YOU ALWAYS SUSPECT?
ISN'T IT OBVIOUS, EVEN NATURAL...THAT THE GUY IN THE SKIN-TIGHT SPANDEX WOULD REALLY BE INSANE?


BOUND AND CRIPPLED, FOOLISH ONES--BY THE LEGACY OF YOUR PASTS.
ELEKTRA! YOUR FATHER WANTED TO INSULATE YOU LIKE A PRINCESS FROM ANYTHING DIRTY OR MESSY--
--LIKE LIFE FOR INSTANCE!
MATT MURDOCK! YOUR FATHER WANTED YOU TO STUDY, STUDY, STUDY AND TO KEEP YOUR HANDS CLEAN --AND IN A STRAIT JACKET.
YOUR PARENTS MEANT WELL, BUT THEY WERE JUST HUMANS, THEY WERE CHILDREN.
GET PAST THOSE OLD GUILTS AND PAINS.
THERE IS NO LEGACY YOU MUST FULFILL BEYOND YOUR OWN.

WHAT MAKES A HERO?
COURAGE!
SACRIFICE!
NO! NARCISSISM!
YOU TWO ARE SO NARCISSISTIC. YOU WANT TO BE IMMORTAL--THAT'S WHY YOU PRANCE AROUND LIKE HEROES!
YOUR MOTIVES STINK!
THAT'S NOT TRUE!
SO WHAT? WHAT'S WRONG WITH WANTING IMMORTALITY?
IT'S A GREAT WAY TO ESCAPE DEATH!
IDIOT!
WHY FEAR DEATH? DEATH IS NOTHING!
LIFE IS WHAT YOU SHOULD BE AFRAID OF!
YOU TWO ARE AS ROTTEN AND RUTHLESS AS ANY VILLAIN YOU'VE EVER FOUGHT!
YOU CAN'T DO WHAT YOU DO AND STAY CLEAN!
HEY! FINALLY I GET A REACTION OUT OF YOU ROBOTS!

Uh.
HOW LONG HAVE I BEEN OUT?
FOURTEEN HOURS! YOU GOTTA TRAIN FOR TONIGHT'S FIGHT! ARE YOU SICK?
NO.
I'M DREAMING... ABOUT TWO DEAD FRIENDS.
A WOMAN?
YES. ONE IS A WOMAN, A WOMAN I LOVE -- OR I MEAN I ONCE LOVED.
HOW'D I GUESS.
WE'RE LEARNING SOME KIND OF LESSON THAT OUR TEACHER DIED BEFORE HE COULD TEACH US.
SOMETHING ABOUT RE-LIVING MY BEGINNINGS, SO I CAN GET ON TO THE NEXT THING.
AND I'M GOING TO DO IT -- I KNOW!
JACK! IT'S JUST A DREAM!
IT IS AND IT ISN'T.
C'MON NYLA -- LET ME SLEEP -- I'VE GOT TO GET BACK TO IT!
I'M SORRY, JACK, THIS IS CRAZY--
BUT I'M JEALOUS OF YOUR DREAM...
WHY AM I JEALOUS OF A WOMAN IN A DREAM?
DON'T BE NYLA. IT'S SILLY.
BESIDES SHE'S DEAD..
I THINK...

FOGWELL'S GYM
NEVER... I NEVER FIXED A FIGHT AND NEVER WILL.
I'D RATHER BE DEAD.
NOW GET OUTTA MY GYM.
VERY WELL.
HEY-- AAGK!
I'M GLAD YOU UNDERSTAND ME.
FIX THE FIGHT OR DIE.
KWAM
GURKL- AKK!
SO YOU HAVE CHOSEN DEATH- HOW NOBLE.
AGHKK!
WHAT DID YOU SAY?
GK-GK-GK!
YOU'LL FIX THE FIGHT AFTER ALL?
WOOMP
I THOUGHT SO. YOU ARE A VERY WISE MAN.
:GASP: Uh... KAFF KAFF! Uh...

TOK!
DAREDEVIL, MAN, WHAT'D YA DO THAT FOR?
YOU ALWAYS BEEN GOOD TO ME, DAREDEVIL.
YEAH? WELL IT'S TIME ALL YOU BUMS STARTED PAYIN' FOR MY PROTECTION.
YOU WANT MONEY?.. THAT'S LIKE THE MAFIA, SINCE WHEN ARE YOU RUNNIN' A PROTECTION RACKET?
SINCE NOW!
NAH, THIS AIN'T RIGHT. YOU AIN'T DARE-DEVIL!
I AM DAREDEVIL! YOU SPREAD THE WORD--
--I AM DAREDEVIL!
THESE BUMS GOT DAREDEVIL ALL WRONG. NO WAY HE CAN RUN AROUND AND DO WHAT HE DOES AN' NOT LOVE IT.
HE LIKES HIS POWER, HE LIKES SWINGIN' HIS FISTS JUST LIKE THE NEXT GUY.

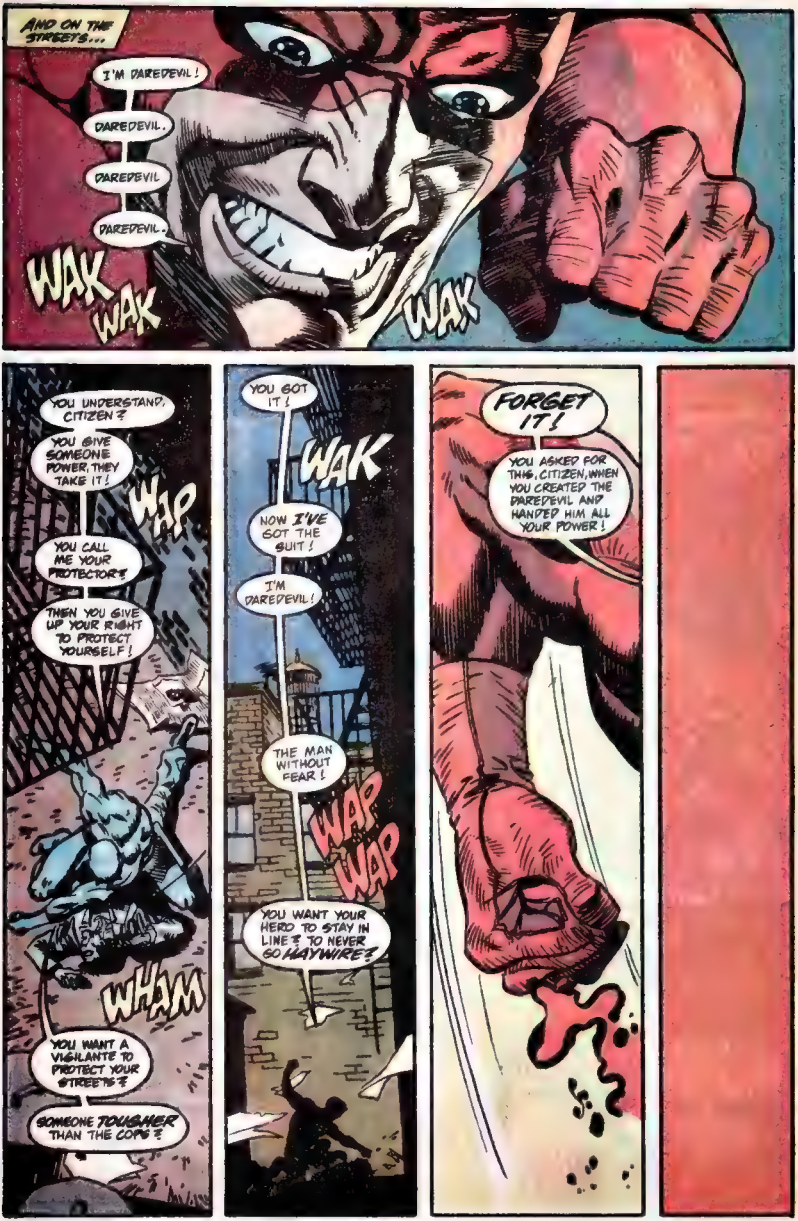
WELL, I'M GONNA FIX HIS IMAGE FOR GOOD.
WHATZAT?
DAREDEVIL?
HELLO, CITIZEN.
WUMP
CLIK
HEY, WHAT'DYA THINK YOURE DOIN?
WAIT--GO ON, TAKE A PICTURE!
TAKE ALL YOU WANT!
WUMP! KRAK! VOK!
Nikon
SELL THIS TO THE DAILY BUGLE!
KRAK!
CLIK CLIK CLIK

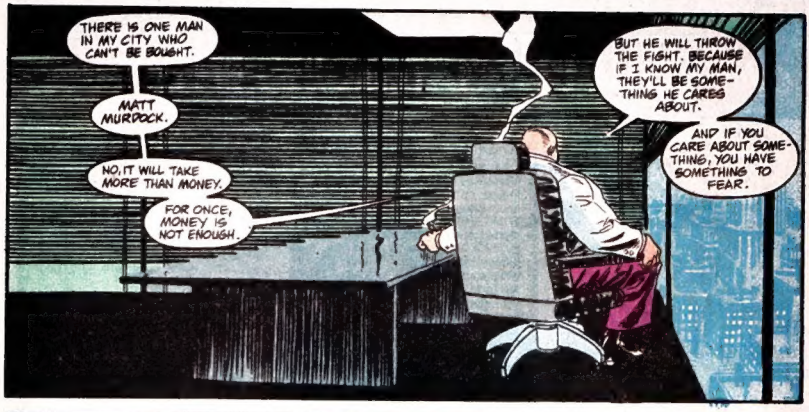
SO WHAT, YOU CAN FIGHT, YOU THINK THAT'S ENOUGH?
YOUR MUSCLES CARRY A MEMORY, AND RIGHT NOW YOUR MUSCLES REMEMBER RAGE.
GET PAST THE RAGE! FIGHT WITHOUT FEAR, WITHOUT ANGER, FIGHT WITH LOVE.
BE A HUMANE FIGHTER. HIT WITH COMPASSION!
STOP SAYING THAT!
IT'S A STUPID PARADOX! THERE'S NO SUCH THING AS A HUMANE FIGHTER!
HOW CAN YOU HIT SOMEONE WITH LOVE?
WAK
LIKE THAT.

HERE. I'LL HELP YOU UP.
THANKS, HONEY.
HEY!
I QUIT.
I WANT NOTHING TO DO WITH HUMANITY, WITH PEOPLE, WITH HUMANE FIGHTING, OR WITH LOVE.
NONE OF THIS IS FOR ME.
TEACHER, OUR TRAINING IS OVER.
AND YOU, MURDOCK? IS THE TRAINING OVER FOR YOU, TOO?

MATTHEW MURDOCK.
THE STORY THAT COULD HAVE GIVEN ME, LOWLY REPORTER BEN URICH, THE PULITZER PRIZE.
MURDOCK MATT
THE GREAT UNPUBLISHED STORY.
THE STORY THAT WOULD HAVE DESTROYED NEW YORK'S MOST DEVOTED PROTECTOR.
SO WHAT? WE SEEM TO HAVE LOST OUR HERO ANYWAY.
OKAY, THINK. THE ANSWER IS RIGHT HERE.
BOY SAVES M CHARGING TRUCK
YOUNG HERO LOSES SIGHT
MURDERED
DAREDEVIL
A YOUNG BOY FLINGS HIMSELF IN FRONT OF A TRUCK, TO SAVE AN OLD MAN.
AND HE KEEPS IT ALL A SECRET.
HE BECOMES THE DAREDEVIL AFTER THE MYSTERIOUS DEATH OF HIS BOXER FATHER, AND FIGHTS CRIME.
HIS WHOLE LIFE BECOMES A STRING OF COMPLEX SECRETS; AND I'VE GOT TO FIGHT MY WHOLE DARN REPORTER'S INSTINCT, SO I DON'T REVEAL THEM ALL.
AND NOW, YEARS LATER, DAREDEVIL TURNS INTO A CRIMINAL...
AND THE GREAT BOXER JACK MURDOCK REAPPEARS AS IF FROM THE GRAVE.
DAILY BUGL
DAREDEVIL
BUGLE SPORTS
REINCARNATION? JACK MURDOCK WINS BY KO AGAIN
HALF OF MATT MURDOCK IS BEATING UP THE PEOPLE HE LOVED AND PROTECTED, AND HALF OF HIM THINKS HES HIS DEAD FATHER.
NOW IF I PUT MY BRILLIANT INVESTIGATIVE MIND TO IT, AND LOOK AT ALL THE FACTS BEFORE ME, I SHOULD HAVE THE ANSWER TO THIS MYSTERY.
THAT IS, IF I WERE BRILLIANT.
ONLY THING I CAN THINK OF IS: THE INEVITABLE FINALLY HAPPENED.
MATT MURDOCK, DAREDEVIL, WHO-EVER HE IS NOW -- HAS GONE NUTS.
AND IT ALL REMAINS WHAT IT ALWAYS WAS-- HIS SECRET.

NO. NEVER. I'D RATHER DIE.
HIT ME!
WAK
HIT ME! HIT ME WITH COMPASSION!
HIT ME WITH LOVE!
I CAN'T HIT YOU!
WAK
HIT ME!
HIT YOU, HIT YOU, HIT YOU...
WOMP!
OKAY!
GOOD MAN!
WHIP
HARDER!
WAK
HARDER!
YES. I UNDERSTAND.
YOU ARE A STUBBORN MAN, WITH A THICK SKULL, MURDOCK.
BUT YOU FINALLY UNDERSTAND.


AND ON THE STREETS...
I'M DAREDEVIL!
DAREDEVIL.
DAREDEVIL
DAREDEVIL.
WAK
WAK
WAK
YOU UNDERSTAND, CITIZEN?
YOU GIVE SOMEONE POWER, THEY TAKE IT!
WAP
YOU CALL ME YOUR PROTECTOR?
THEN YOU GIVE UP YOUR RIGHT TO PROTECT YOURSELF!
WHAM
YOU WANT A VIGILANTE TO PROTECT YOUR STREETS?
SOMEONE TOUGHER THAN THE COPS?
YOU GOT IT!
WAK
NOW I'VE GOT THE SUIT!
I'M DAREDEVIL!
THE MAN WITHOUT FEAR!
WAP
WAP
YOU WANT YOUR HERO TO STAY IN LINE? TO NEVER GO HAYWIRE?
FORGET IT!
YOU ASKED FOR THIS, CITIZEN, WHEN YOU CREATED THE DAREDEVIL AND HANDED HIM ALL YOUR POWER!

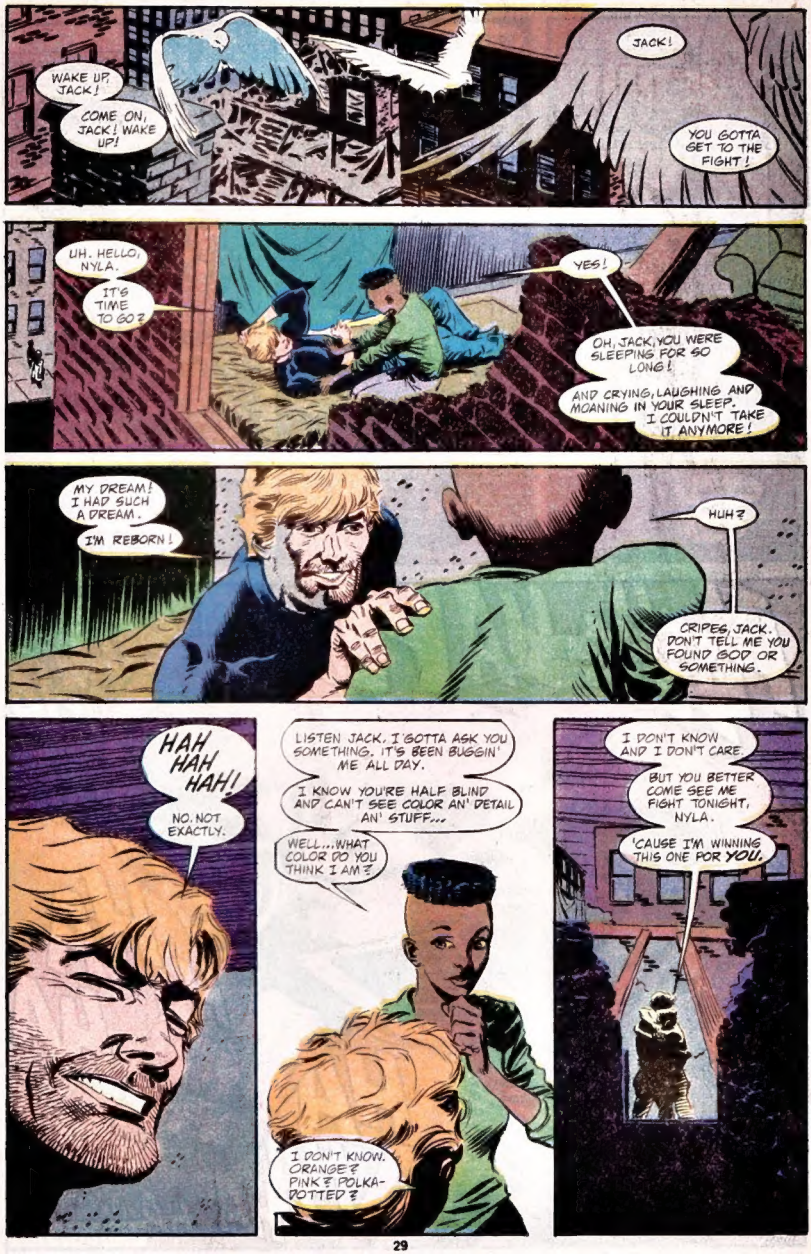

THERE IS ONE MAN IN MY CITY WHO CAN'T BE BOUGHT.
MATT MURDOCK.
NO, IT WILL TAKE MORE THAN MONEY.
FOR ONCE, MONEY IS NOT ENOUGH.
BUT HE WILL THROW THE FIGHT. BECAUSE IF I KNOW MY MAN, THEY'LL BE SOMETHING HE CARES ABOUT.
AND IF YOU CARE ABOUT SOMETHING, YOU HAVE SOMETHING TO FEAR.

WHAT HAVE YOU FOUND OUT?
UH...THERE'S A GIRL.

AH. A GIRL. THERE'S ALWAYS A GIRL.

BRING HER TO ME, ALIVE.
YES! MR. FISK.

WAIT.
SIR?
SEND A MESSAGE TO BULLSEYE.
I HAVE A JOB FOR HIM.


WAKE UP, JACK!
COME ON, JACK! WAKE UP!
JACK!
YOU GOTTA GET TO THE FIGHT!
UH. HELLO, NYLA.
IT'S TIME TO GO?
YES!
OH, JACK, YOU WERE SLEEPING FOR SO LONG!
AND CRYING, LAUGHING AND MOANING IN YOUR SLEEP. I COULDN'T TAKE IT ANYMORE!
MY DREAM! I HAD SUCH A DREAM.
I'M REBORN!
HUH?
CRIPES, JACK. DON'T TELL ME YOU FOUND GOD OR SOMETHING.
HAH HAH HAH!
NO. NOT EXACTLY.
LISTEN JACK. I GOTTA ASK YOU SOMETHING. IT'S BEEN BUGGIN' ME ALL DAY.
I KNOW YOU'RE HALF BLIND AND CAN'T SEE COLOR AN' DETAIL AN' STUFF...
WELL...WHAT COLOR DO YOU THINK I AM?
I DON'T KNOW. ORANGE? PINK? POLKA-DOTTED?
I DON'T KNOW AND I DON'T CARE.
BUT YOU BETTER COME SEE ME FIGHT TONIGHT, NYLA.
'CAUSE I'M WINNING THIS ONE FOR YOU.

YEAH, KINGPIN?
IT'S BULLSEYE. I HEARD YOU WERE LOOKIN' FOR ME.
OH, YEAH?
YEAH?
NO PROBLEM. I'D LOVE TO.
WHAT'S SHE LOOK LIKE?
UH-HUH.
YOU GOT HER.
HAH HAH HA!
NYLA.
THAT'S A PRETTY NAME.
A VERY PRETTY NAME.
HA HA HA HA HA HA HA HA HA HA HA HA
CONTINUED...

DEVIL'S ADVOCATE

RALPH MACCHIO: EDITOR — MICHAEL HEISLER: ASSISTANT EDITOR
c/o MARVEL COMICS — 387 PARK AVENUE SOUTH — NEW YORK, NEW YORK — 10016

ATTENTION CORRESPONDENTS: ALL LETTERS TO BE CONSIDERED FOR PUBLICATION MUST INCLUDE YOUR NAME AND ADDRESS THOUGH WE WILL WITHHOLD THAT INFO BY REQUEST!

Before we dive headlong into this month's letters, there's a few things we should let you know, some of which we're happy about, the first of which we're not so happy about:

Thing #1: Back in issue #282, we all but visited your homes and promised you personally that John Romita Jr. would be shortly returning to the penciling chores on D.D. At the time, we honestly thought so ourselves. However (you can probably guess where this is leading), we find ourselves having to reluctantly admit that JR Jr. will *not* be returning to DAREDEVIL at any time in the foreseeable future. Sort of.

Thing #2: We say "sort of" because although he will no longer be penciling the regular book, JR *will* be handling the penciling on an ultra-deluxe, bound-to-be-hardbound DAREDEVIL *Graphic Novel!* We can't say how soon you'll see it, though; at this point we don't even know how *long* it will be (at least 100 pages)! This volume will be of special interest to longtime D.D. fans, as it presents the definitive story of Hornhead's early years, and is written by none other than fabulous *Frank Miller!* 'Nuff said?

Thing #3: Not quite. Speaking of Frank Miller, we're overjoyed to announce that the long-awaited graphic novel *Elektra Lives Again* will at last see print and will be available a little over a month after you read these lines! Frank's knocked himself out on the story and the art, and it's got beautifully painted full color by *Lynn Varley*, to boot! We think you'll agree that it's been well worth the wait.

Thing #4: We can't complain too loudly about losing JR, anyway, because we've managed to snag *Lee Weeks* as our new regular penciler! Lee just happened to be visiting the offices on the very day that Ralph and Mike were looking for a penciler for issue #284, and (except for a little help from *Greg Capullo* on issue #286), he's been here ever since. Lee won't be coming on permanently until issue #291, though, because...

Thing #5: Well, it's because, with four different pencilers over the past six months, this book is kind of beaten up, schedule-wise. So, while Lee gets a big jump on #291, issues #289 and #290 will be penciled by former CAPTAIN AMERICA artist *Kieron Dwyer!* Okay? Okay!

Thing #6: No Thing!

We now return you to your regularly scheduled letters page...

Dear Sirs,

I first started collecting DAREDEVIL four years ago with issue number 244 and thanks to Ann Nocenti's writing, it quickly became one of my favorites.

Unlike many of the other titles that I collect, DAREDEVIL has always made me sit down and think after I read it. Again, this is credited to Miss Nocenti's excellent scripting. However (you knew there was an "however" coming, didn't you?) I'm extremely glad to see the current storyline involving Mephisto come to an end. Although the story itself was, as always, beautifully scripted, and the art magnificent, I just haven't enjoyed the current storyline.

One of the main reasons I'm drawn to the "realistic" titles such as DAREDEVIL, SPIDER-MAN, PUNISHER, MOON KNIGHT, and CAPTAIN AMERICA is to avoid these kinds of storylines. Now, I'll admit that I enjoy an occasional storyline dealing with the supernatural (such as the one concerning voodoo that first got me interested in DAREDEVIL), but if I wanted the supernatural each month, I'd be reading DOCTOR STRANGE, not the above mentioned titles. So please, get hornhead back to Hell's Kitchen and keep him away from the netherworld, okay?

The only reason I was sorry to see the end of this storyline is because it marked the departure of John Romita Jr. Over the last thirty-two issues Mr. Romita has become the only (other than maybe Frank Miller) penciler for this series, as far as I'm concerned, and I anxiously await his return.

Until next time. . .

Manson Fedrick
Rt One, Box 615
Waynesboro, MS 39367

Well, Manson, we're sorry that you didn't like the recent stories that Daredevil has been involved in, but we hope that you stick around to see what we have in store for old Hornhead next.

Dear Ralph,

So Daredevil's sojourn comes to an end. This has been a voyage of self-discovery, for Matt and his fellow travelers. Maybe, it's a bit like the Australians' (or should I say, Aborigines') "Walkabout." Except that being a super hero in a comic, he comes across the likes of Mephisto and the Silver Surfer. In comics, after all, heroes do journey through Hell. For Daredevil, though, the reality of the situation wasn't important. This was a spiritual journey. Tired of his life in Hell's Kitchen, he takes that description one step further, to the ultimate place of heat and fire. It looks like he's due back in New York now; it will seem like child's play in comparison. Whereas Daredevil may have rediscovered himself and given himself new hope and confidence, one area that Matt Murdock has not made any progress in over these past fifteen issues or so is in relationships. Karen, Foggy, Elektra, even Natasha are all far behind, but what will he have learned about coping with the aspect of his life? He has had the love of several good women and has managed to alienate them all. Ever since that historic final page of DAREDEVIL #52 (I think my collection isn't with me just now) when Karen pulls off his mask, the two of them have been destined to be together, but first one and then the other has resisted. I hope that maybe some stability and happiness in that area of his life is now due him, and that he can use his recently gained personal advances to his advantage in sorting out his personal emotions.

And hey, the book has looked *great* of late, for which all members of the visual team deserve credit, especially Al Williamson, one of the masters of his craft.

Malcolm Bourne
2 &4 Bye Road
Shuttleworth, Ramsbottom
Bury, Lancashire BLO OHH
England

Dear Dudes of Marvel,

The ending of the Mephisto storyline in DAREDEVIL #282 brings to conclusion the best storyline in comics so far this year. What better time for Daredevil to return to New York after regaining his "faith" by resisting Mephisto's temptations. Through Mephisto, Daredevil finally comes to terms with all his past failures and realizes that good will not always win but it's important not to give up. I can't wait to see Daredevil back in Hell's Kitchen where he belongs. One quick question—how long before we find out about the fate of Blackheart?

Eddie (illegible last name)
Yonkers, New York

Hey, Eddie, we're glad you liked the ending. As for the fate of Blackheart, well, that won't be answered for some time to come. After all, Daredevil is going to be pretty busy readjusting to being back on his home turf. But don't worry. Blackheart is sure to pop up sometime in the future. By the way, Eddie, what exactly do you enforce?

Dear Double D.,

I thought #282 was a great way to end the Mephisto saga. Silver Surfer guest stars, Blackheart banished, Brandy dies. Plus Gorgon and Karnak take "Pope" home. Next, Captain America and best of all Daredevil goes back to New York City. Let's see Foggy, Karen, Typhoid, Kingpin, and Spider-Man drop in soon. Also, let's see some new baddies too. With all the stuff going on in SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN and WEB OF SPIDER-MAN, it seems Daredevil should meet up with the new underworld bosses, Chameleon and Hammerhead. Tombstone would be an ultimate guy for Daredevil to lock horns with (pun intended). One more thing—let's see Shotgun and Number Nine return someday. Well till Daredevil redons his yellow suit from DAREDEVIL #1—Make Mine Marvel!

M. Prichard
(Address withheld upon request)